

have tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans than veterans benefits. Period. No other explanation is plausible. It is almost impossible for me to believe that as the veterans population rises and ages, that this House would eliminate benefits.

Mr. Speaker, we have men and women on the field of battle in Iraq, fighting to make others free. Should we not honor their sacrifice by keeping our promises to those that have already served? Should we not eliminate these cuts in VA spending? The wealthy need a tax cut less than veterans need the health care they were promised. If our society has sunk to the point where we are choosing to dishonor service in order to make the rich richer, then we surely are not the great nation we once were.

Mr. Speaker, we should honor those who have served, those who were POWs, and those that gave the ultimate sacrifice.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CYBERMOLESTERS ENFORCE- MENT ACT OF 2003

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to introduce my "Cybermolesters Enforcement Act of 2003," a bill that would bring today's high-tech child molesters to justice.

While the Internet has revolutionized communication and business, it unfortunately provides a tool for child molesters, and loopholes in the current law allow some of these predators to escape without any real consequences. And although it is already a federal crime to cross state lines to sexually molest a minor, in recent years the number of people using the Internet to violate this law has skyrocketed. I call these individuals "cybermolesters."

Cybermolesters are not easy to identify. They typically are well educated; middle-class citizens who have no previous criminal record and, as a result, tend to escape with little or no jail time. For example, convicted child pornographers receive ten-year mandatory sentences, but those who use the Internet to meet children and commit criminal sexual acts can receive no jail time at all. This double standard gives lighter sentences to a special set of privileged criminals. My bill would end this double standard by imposing a five-year mandatory minimum sentence for cybermolesters.

My bill also provides law enforcement with two important tools to combat those who prey on our nation's children. First, it would allow law enforcement to obtain a federal wiretap on those suspected of committing certain child sexual exploitation offenses, such as transmitting computer-generated child pornography, enticing a minor to travel for sexual activity, and transporting a minor for sexual activity. Second, it would classify child pornography as "contraband," which would enable law enforcement to seize it based upon probable cause and to destroy it automatically after its use, as evidence was no longer needed. This measure has the support of the FBI's "Innocent Images" Program, which is on the front lines of the battle against on-line pedophiles.

Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago the passage of H.R. 1104 was a clear demonstration of our

united support in improving the safety and welfare of our children. We cannot allow our law enforcement to lose step with an ever-evolving electronic society. We cannot allow these sexual predators to get away with the criminal acts they are committing against innocent children. We cannot allow one of our greatest advancements to become a tool for our biggest degenerates. The Cybermolester Enforcement Act will ensure that these "cyberpredators" are suitably punished and America's children are properly protected.

NATIONAL FORMER PRISONER OF WAR RECOGNITION DAY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Americans who are currently serving our country, and those who have served so gallantly in the past. Particularly during this time of war, America's heroes of the past, as well as the present, must be honored and remembered. As such, I join Congressman HOYER and Congressman SKELTON to recognize today as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day.

These soldiers, captured while fighting for freedom and the future of America, faced imprisonment with their fates unknown. These brave men and women looked their enemy in the face, persevered with honor, courage, and faith in their country—and survived. Many, however, were not so fortunate.

The ordeal of being a prisoner of war does not end once rescued from behind enemy lines. The physical, emotional, and spiritual toll of internment can take years, even a lifetime, to rebuild and overcome.

As former prisoners of war, you have gone beyond the call of your duty. You put your life, your blood, your soul on the line. This is a sacrifice most of us will never be able to comprehend. That burden, that sacrifice, that unfettered dedication to our country will forever make you national heroes.

We owe an inexpressible debt of gratitude to you, our former POWs, and to your families, whose prayers for a safe return were answered.

Today we honor you for your bravery, strength, and sacrifice. And tomorrow we will not forget.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S REAL HE- ROES AS OFFERED BY ALABAMA STATE AUDITOR BETH CHAPMAN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, a childhood friend, Beth Killough Chapman, who now serves my home state of Alabama with distinction as our State Auditor, made a speech at a "Stand up for America Rally" in the city of Pelham, a suburb of Birmingham.

Beth's remarks, although certainly unintended at the time, captured the views of

many of us in this country and sparked an emotional response from literally thousands of people in all 50 states, including many of the men and women who proudly wear the uniform of our military in defense of this great country.

Unlike so many of the speeches we hear in this city, Beth Chapman's remarks were not made with a particular slant that was either pro-Democrat or pro-Republican. Instead, Beth's comments were simply "pro-American," and after reading her words, it was obvious to me that the speech was made straight from the heart.

Mr. Speaker, in these uncertain times when so many people have questions about where we are going, what we are doing and who can we trust, I found Beth Chapman's words inspirational and comforting. I ask that her speech be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety, in hopes that even more people can be encouraged to stop and think about the true price of liberty and who is making the real sacrifices to preserve what is so dear to us all:

I'm here tonight because men and women of the United States military have given their lives for my freedom. I am not here tonight because Sheryl Crowe, Rosie O'Donnell, Jane Fonda, Martin Sheen, the Dixie Chicks, Barbra Streisand, the Beastie Boys, George Clooney or Phil Donahue, sacrificed their lives for me.

If my memory serves me correctly, it was not movie stars or musicians, but the United States Military who fought on the shores of Iwo Jima, the jungles of Vietnam, and the beaches of Normandy.

Tonight, I say we should support the President of the United States and the U.S. military and tell the liberal, tree-hugging, hippy, Birkenstock wearing, tie-dyed liberals to go make their movies and music and whine somewhere else.

After all, if they lived in Iraq, they wouldn't be allowed the freedom of speech they're being given here today—ironically, they would be put to death at the hands of Saddam Hussein or Osama Bin Laden.

I want to know how the very people who are against war because of the loss of life, can possibly be the same people who are for abortion?

They are the same people who are for animal rights but against the rights of the unborn.

The movie stars say they want to go to Iraq and serve as human shields for the Iraqis, I say let them buy a one-way ticket and go.

No one likes war, I hate war. But the one thing I hate more is the fact that this country has been forced into war—innocent people have lost their lives—and there but for the grace of God, it could have been my brother, my husband, or even worse my own son.

On December 7, 1941, there are no records of movie stars treading the blazing waters of Pearl Harbor.

On September 11, 2001; there are no photos of movie stars standing as human shields against the debris and falling bodies descending from the World Trade Center. There were only policemen and firemen—underpaid civil servants who gave their all with nothing expected in return.

When the USS *Cole* was bombed, there were no movie stars guarding the ship—where were the human shields then?

If America's movie stars want to be human shields, let them shield the gang-ridden streets of Los Angeles, or New York City, let them shield the lives of the children of North

Birmingham whose mothers lay them down to sleep on the floor each night to shelter them from stray bullets.

If they want to be human shields, I say let them shield the men and women of honesty and integrity who epitomize courage and embody the spirit of freedom by wearing the proud uniforms of the United States Military. Those are the people who have earned and deserve shielding.

Throughout the course of history, this country has remained free, not because of movie stars and liberal activists but because of brave men and women who hated war too—but lay down their lives so that we all may live in freedom. After all—What greater love hath no man, that he lay down his life for his friend," but in this case a country.

We should give our military honor and acknowledgement and not let their lives be in vain. If you want to see true human shields, walk through Arlington Cemetery. There lie human shields, heroes, and the BRAVE Americans who didn't get on television and talk about being human shields, they were human shields.

I thank God tonight for freedom—those who bought and paid for it with their lives in the past—those who will protect it in the present and defend it in the future.

America has remained silent too long. God-fearing people have remained silent too long.

We must lift our voices united in a humble prayer to God for guidance and the strength and courage to sustain us throughout whatever the future may hold.

After the tragic events of Sept. 11th, my then eleven-year-old son said terrorism is a war against us and them and if you're not one of us, then you're one of them.

So in closing tonight, let us be of one accord, let us stand proud, and let us be the human shields of prayer, encouragement and support for the President, our troops and their families and our country.

May God bless America, the land of the free, the home of the brave and the greatest country on the face of this earth!

HONORING RUTH GRIFFIN

HON. JEB BRADLEY

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Ruth Griffin upon receiving the first annual 2003 Lifetime of Service Award from City Year New Hampshire.

This award is given in recognition of New Hampshire citizens who have committed themselves to making a difference in their neighborhood, city, and state. Ruth's thirty years of public service are a testament to her love of New Hampshire and her desire to make it an even better place to live.

Ruth claims her greatest joy in life is service to others, and she remains committed to this adage by participating in numerous community service events and programs, along with performing her civic duties as an elected official. It is clear she has lived up to this motto through her work with the Portsmouth Housing Authority Commission and the Portsmouth Board of Education. She extended her service beyond the Seacoast to all of New Hampshire by serving as a State Representative and State Senator, and she currently serves as an Executive Councilor. She is also a long-standing supporter of law enforcement, as evi-

denced by her lifetime membership in the 100 Club of New Hampshire and her past tenure on the Portsmouth Police Commission. Ruth gives one hundred percent of her time and efforts to bettering the lives of those less fortunate. She is a role model for the concepts of citizenship, teamwork, and appreciation of difference, the ideals on which City Year is based.

Ruth is a shining example of what good citizenship is all about. She has raised the bar for those who want to be public servants. I am proud to represent such an outstanding citizen and community leader in the United States House of Representatives.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bipartisan bill that would establish a program for transitional housing assistance for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Passage of this legislation is long overdue, as thousands of women and their children continue to suffer at the hands of their abusers simply because they have no where else to go.

I am proud to be joined in this effort by my colleague from the other body, Senator PATRICK LEAHY, who is introducing identical legislation today. I would also like to commend the 25 bipartisan cosponsors who have joined me in seeking relief and assistance for abused women and children. No time is more appropriate than the present to introduce a bill that seeks to help those who have suffered violence in their personal lives and in their homes.

Senator LEAHY and I recognize and understand the complex issues facing women and their children who want nothing more than a safe and secure home. Transitional housing is often the link between emergency housing and a victim's ability to become self-sufficient. This bill opens the doors to new opportunities for survivors because, in addition to a roof and a bed, transitional housing programs also offer supportive services, such as counseling, job training, access to education, and child care. These tools are critical to allowing women to get back on their feet and to be able to support their children in a home that is free from violence.

This bill would authorize \$30 million for each fiscal year from 2004 through 2008. The program would be added to the Violence Against Women Act and would be funded through the Violence Against Women Office in the Department of Justice. With 50% of homeless women on the streets because of domestic violence, it is critical that we address the unique needs of this large and vulnerable population. The Violence Against Women Office has the unique understanding and ability to help these women and children.

It is now essential that we not only pass this legislation but also appropriate \$30 million for transitional housing assistance and provide this critically needed safety net for women seeking to escape abuse. The women and children of this country deserve nothing less.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF DONNELL D. ETZWILER, M.D.

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and achievements of Donnell D. Etzwiler, M.D.

My home state of Minnesota lost a true hero for people with diabetes on April 6 when Dr. Etzwiler passed away, but his legacy lives on. Dr. Etzwiler touched countless lives with his commitment to improving the quality of care for Americans with diabetes.

A graduate of Yale University School of Medicine, Dr. Etzwiler served for four decades as a pediatrician specializing in diabetes care at the Park Nicollet Clinic in Minneapolis. He is perhaps best known as the founder of the International Diabetes Center (IDC) in Minnesota, where he served as President and Chief Medical Officer until 1996. The mission of the IDC is to ensure every person with diabetes or even at risk of developing diabetes receives the best possible care.

Throughout Dr. Etzwiler's three decades of leadership, the IDC delivered on that promise. The IDC has trained over 20,000 health professionals, including hundreds from countries such as Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Poland and Russia. Because of his dedication to the children he cared for, the IDC organized and hosted the First International Symposium on Diabetes Camps in 1974. This important group helped establish standards and accreditation for diabetes camp programs.

In 1976 and 1977, Dr. Etzwiler served as President of the American Diabetes Association. Later, he spent over twelve years as a Principal Investigator for the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial at the National Institutes of Health. This groundbreaking study demonstrated that keeping blood glucose levels as close to normal as possible in people with diabetes slows the onset and progression of complications like eye, kidney and nerve disease.

Dr. Etzwiler's commitment to improving diabetes care transcended national boundaries. He served as Chairman of the Diabetes Collaborating Centers for the World Health Organization. The Russian government officially recognized his work by awarding Dr. Etzwiler a Peace Award for co-founding and co-directing the International Diabetes Programme in Russia.

Most recently, Dr. Etzwiler received the National Institute of Health Policy's Health Care Leadership Award for his outstanding record of service.

As if all these landmark accomplishments were not enough to occupy his time, Dr. Etzwiler was also heavily involved in professional medical associations, serving in many leadership positions. He was a member of the Institute of Medicine. He received over 30 honors and awards from professional and civic organizations. He was a professor of medicine for over 40 years and published over 200 articles and abstracts about diabetes care.

Dr. Etzwiler's commitment and compassion has literally saved and improved the lives of countless people across the globe, especially